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BLIND SENATOR SUE

Jury Finds for Defendant in Less than Five Minutes Deliberation

The suit against United States Senator Thomas P. Gore of Oklahoma for \$50,000 damages instituted by Mrs. Minnie E. Bond was tried last week.

Senator Gore is one among the most distinguished members of the upper House of congress, is a Missourian and a native of Monroe county and though totally blind, is a man of many parts. His wife reads to him and he dictates to stenographers and his position on public questions and quality as a statesman stand very high and no impeachment of his private character until this accusation against him.

At Oklahoma City last week when the trial opened Mrs. Bond took the stand to detail her version of the basis for the suit. At the opening of the suit Judge Clark ruled that no specific instances of the plaintiffs departure from the path of virtue would be admitted in evidence, but that her general reputation might be ascertained.

Mrs. Bond took the stand and said that her first meeting with the Senator in Washington was in his office and that she was there for the purpose of getting his endorsement for her husband for Internal Revenue Collector. When the question was asked her, "was there anything unusual in the Senator's conduct?" she said "I consider it unusual. Senator Gore, after remarking on the weather, put his hand on my shoulder and said: 'What did you do then?' 'I left at once.'"

She said her next interview with Senator Gore was in the Winston Hotel where the Senator offered to meet her when she demurred to visiting his office the second time. Negotiations between them, it appears, was through National Committeeman James R. Jacobs of Oklahoma City. At the suggestion of Jacobs she said she took the Senator to the Committeeman's room on the second floor. Describing the scene in Jacobs room, Mrs. Bond said the Senator began talking of Bonds application and inquired casually as to her size. She had seated herself on the bed, the Senator in a rocking chair. During their conversation she answered the telephone and the Senator moved his chair nearer the bed and when she resumed her place on the bed, he took her hand in his.

She remonstrated and the Senator begged her pardon, then told her that Bond could not be appointed. When he said this Mrs. Bond said she got up from the bed and started to leave when the Senator tried to pull her down on his lap. She testified that she remonstrated with him and that she remarked that she would call the police and he arose and pushed her back on the bed where she struggled and screamed. At that instant she testified, an attorney by the name of Robertson of Oklahoma City rushed into the room. There was some conversation between them and Mrs. Bond swore before leaving. Senator Gore tried to get her to make a statement that nothing had happened. Mrs. Bond wears glasses and broken glasses were introduced in evidence as those worn by her at the time of her encounter with Senator Gore.

The defense claims that the whole thing is a frame-up, first to get money out of the Senator

and next to defeat him for reelection. Former Committeeman Jacobs was a disappointed candidate for a federal appointment as well as the husband of the plaintiff, and it was in his room that the scene is laid and out side the door of that room where Attorney Robertson was stationed to appear at the psychological moment.

On cross examination Mrs. Bond admitted that she had been married before to one Alvin H. Farrer and that it developed that Farrer had a living wife at the time. He secured a divorce and a second ceremony was performed and soon after she secured a divorce from Farrer.

The defense claims that representatives from Mrs. Bond offered to settle the case for \$25,000 and finally reduced the amount to \$5,000 which Senator Gore refused to consider. If Senator Gore did anything at all charged by Mrs. Bond it was not only because he was blind but also because he is a fool. Judging from the picture of Mrs. Bond it is impossible to conceive, even though blind, how he could have mistaken her for a woman possessing any attraction whatever. If however, he did anything charged by Mrs. Bond he made two mistakes, one in assuming that the game was worth the candle and next telling her before hand that her husband could not be appointed. Under any circumstances, those husbands who are willing that their wives should become their emissaries on such missions, have no grounds for complaint whatever the result.

It developed that the ex-bandit candidate for governor, Al Jennings was engineering the plot and was in the room with Robertson, Jacobs and others at the time of the alleged assault. The jury was out but a few minutes when it returned a verdict in favor of the Senator.

Redman-Medcalf

Cards are out announcing the marriage of Miss Alice Elizabeth Medcalf to John Kendrick Redman for Wednesday evening February 25 at the home of the bride's parents near Hannibal.

John Redman was a resident here for a number of years and was universally liked and all of his old friends speak of him in words of high commendation. If he has not changed materially the young lady has won a first class young man and we know we can rely on his judgment in his selection of a wife.

Congratulations in advance by the Courier and all his other friends.

Mrs. Wright Entertains

Mrs. W. L. Wright was hostess to about twenty-six guests Thursday night at her home to play Progressive Forty-two. There were seven tables used and the guests enjoyed a substantial lunch of four courses.

The menu included grape fruit, two kinds of sandwiches, fish, salad, potato chips, sherbet, coffee, cheese straws, mints and salted nuts.

Consolidation Wins

School consolidation again carries. This time it is at Prairie Hill when the vote was taken Friday to consolidate four districts, Prairie Hill, Conrad, Colley and Edmonson. The center of this district will be Prairie Hill. The vote was 96 for the proposition and 16 against.

Humphrey-Gooch

Rolla Humphrey and Meia Gooch, both colored, were married at Salisbury at St. Luke's church (colored) by Rev. J. H. Ward, the pastor, Sunday, February 8.

ANY RELATIVES HERE

Emma Johnson Now in Asylum Former Resident of this County

Word has been received by the Courier that a woman who calls herself Emma Johnson and who has been in the asylum, La Salle County, Ottawa, Illinois for 3 years, claims to have been a resident of this county some years ago and having relatives here. She is about 60 years old and about 8 years ago was found in the woods tramping and was taken charge of and confined in the asylum since that time.

Until recently she could give no account of herself but seems of late to have regained slight memory of the past and speaks much of her children. She claims to have a son named Walter Johnson and a daughter named Rosa Johnson and that her maiden name was Bartram. From word received by the County Clerk, who was applied to by one of the officials of the asylum for information concerning her, she claims to have had acquaintances around Keytesville and Dalton and the idea is suggested that she was evidently a woman of some education and pretention prior to her mental aberration.

Any information concerning her will be gladly received by County Clerk Parks, the Courier and the Superintendent of the Asylum, Ottawa, Illinois.

Koehl-Vater

At nuptial High Mass at St. Joseph church near Mendon Feb. 10, 1914 Rev. Father Adolphus Budde of Wein solemnized the marriage of Frances K. Koehl and Miss Anna Vater. Mr. Koehl is the son of William Koehl of Chillicothe, Mo. who formerly resided near Mendon, and is a sterling young man possessing a host of friends. Mrs. Frances Koehl is the winsome daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Vater and was charmingly attired in brocaded silk crepe de chine, pearl and rosebud ornaments.

Misses Minnie Koehl and Vesta Grubbs were bridesmaids and were splendidly costumed in pink and yellow silk crepe de chine, carrying immense bouquets, harmonizing with the large bunch of roses carried by the bride. James Vater and John Koehl were groomsmen.

Lohengrin's wedding march excellently rendered by Miss Maxy O'Rourke at 10:00 a. m. signaled the approach of the bridal party to a crowded house of friends assembled to do the young couple honor. A sumptuous dinner was served by the bride's parents at their home where many valuable tokens of esteem had been sent by admiring friends. The happy couple have fitted up a cozy home on a farm near Mendon where they are now at home to their friends.

The Courier extends heartiest congratulations.

(We were forced for lack of space to abbreviate a splendid write-up of the event, sent to us by a young lady friend of the couple.)

Kistler-Meyer

Herbert Kistler residing about four miles from this city and Miss Elizabeth Meyer went to Moberly Wednesday to be married. No direct word was had from that place but it is presumed that the marriage was performed as scheduled.

Marriage Licenses

Oswald M. Fidler, Salisbury. Audrey L. Fox, Salisbury. Andrew Williams, col., Dalton. Louise Morgan, col., Dalton.

Settle Cunningham Estate

After considerable litigation, the estate of the late John D. Cunningham has been settled. The articles of settlement were filed with the recorder Tuesday and the members of the family who had been here settling the estate left for their homes. Under the terms of the settlement, Mrs. Elizabeth Cunningham, for herself and her three wards, Grace Gladys, Leota Ellen and James Doran Cunningham, takes the St. James Hotel property at lots 1 and 2, block 4, Smart's Second addition to Kansas City. The hotel is a 99-year lease and is encumbered for \$16,000. This incumbrance, a deed of trust is assumed by Mrs. Cunningham et al. and they also waive their rights to the ground rent for February, \$175 and will also pay the unearned insurance premiums amounting to \$300. Mrs. Cunningham also relinquishes her claim of \$4200 against the estate. Orval J. Cunningham as administrator and personally, J. C. Cropper as administrator, J. W. Cunningham acting for self and Bertha S. Keys and Myrtle S. Smith, were the other parties to the contract. They received the relinquishment of all rights of the parties of the first part to any other part of the estate, the latter parties to pay all claims against estate and to hold Mrs. Cunningham harmless for all claims of J. J. Kendrick for any part in selling the land of the estate. Mrs. Cunningham also is to pay the administrators \$200 of a claim she has for \$650 against J. W. Cunningham.

Many Vaccinations

The physicians have had a run of vaccination here in the past week. Ever since the board of health suggested the practice of vaccination as a prophylaxis in case of small pox in epidemic form, there has been a rush to the physicians. Vaccine points were gone Monday morning and a telephone message was sent to St. Louis by a local druggist for a new supply. Don't hit the children or adults on the arm or leg for a few weeks for if you do there may be trouble in store. There are some who figure they are immune or just naturally are not afraid of the disease who have not and will not be vaccinated. The statistics show that in this country the average man stands as much chance of contracting the small pox as he has of being kicked in the left eye by a lefthanded cross-eyed rooster.

Elected Grand Representative

M. G. Walther has been honored by the Odd Fellows of this district, comprising Chariton and Randolph counties by being elected Grand representative to attend the meeting of the Grand Lodge in Carthage next May. Mr. Walther is one of the live wires in Odd Fellowship in this county and the order made a good selection.

Myers-Dunn

Henry L. Myers and Miss Lorena Dunn were married at the recorder's office at the court house Tuesday, February 17 by Rev. W. T. Russell, pastor of Baptist church of this city. This was the first wedding performed here by the new Baptist minister.

Oldham-Myers

John Oldham and Miss Ollie Myers of Marceline were united in marriage by R. S. Maupin at Marceline February 13.

The crop was deemed big enough this week for the harvest and workmen began to put it in the Taylor & Moore house on the Zillman pond.

OLD RESIDENT IS DEAD

Judge O. F. Smith Dies of Heart Trouble Last Saturday

At his residence in this city about the breakfast hour February 14, 1914, Judge Oscar F. Smith suddenly expired while sitting in a rocking chair, his breakfast being served to him. He had been ill but two days and his physician advised that he remain in bed but feeling so well Saturday morning and much averse to being bedfast under any circumstances got up and was his usual cheerful self. With him was his daughter, Mrs. Ernestine Coulter and three grandchildren, who were subjected to the shock of their lives, when turning to observe the Judge partaking of a cup of coffee, they discovered he was dead. Relatives and friends hastily assembled and discovered the deceased sitting in his chair as peaceful and as erect as in life and he remained in this same position for sometime and until the arrival of the undertaker.

Oscar F. Smith was born in Kentucky December 28, 1833, but moved with his parents to Linn County, Mo., during his early childhood. After completing the country school he finished the courses at the Old McGee College in Macon county and later attended Central College at Fayette after which he took up the study of law. Shortly after beginning his legal study the Civil War came and he espoused the cause of the Union, being made Captain of Company M, 12th Cavalry, Mo. Volunteers and served as such until the close of the war.

He married Miss Martha L. Stevens of Paris, Mo., in 1865 and a short time thereafter began the practice of law at that town. In 1867 he came to Keytesville and located and began the practice of law, but was soon elected Probate Judge and afterwards Prosecuting Attorney. He immediately, upon filling out his term of office, resumed the practice of law in which he was engaged at the time of his death, devoting his practice principally to probate matters.

His wife died several years ago, since which time he has devoted his time to the welfare of his children, Mrs. Theodore Wood and Mrs. Coulter of Kansas City, Mrs. J. F. Stowers of Oklahoma City, Mrs. George Cox of Texas and his only son, Oscar.

There are few of whom their friends boast as a more congenial companion than Judge Smith. Cheerful, progressive and thoroughly companionable, he was genuinely liked by his associates. Fearless, charitable and optimistic and with an unswerving devotion to his family, he was truly a good citizen.

Judge Smith united with the Methodist church years ago during the pastorate of Rev. Herley and continued his membership to his death. Rev. Meyers, pastor of the church delivered an impressive funeral sermon at the church Monday afternoon, after which the Judge was laid away by the side of his wife in the city cemetery attended by relatives and friends from a distance as well as those at home. Practically all of the Chariton County Bar were present to pay their last respects to the deceased brother.

F. X. Koehl of Mendon and Anna Regina Vater of the same neighborhood were married by Rev. A. Joseph A. Dudde, at St. Joseph church near Mendon, Tuesday, February 10.

Too Much Laudanum

Miss Mary Hubbard was a victim of an overdose of laudanum Thursday of last week and physicians had to resort to strychnine injection to restore circulation and bring the young woman back to proper physical condition. Miss Hubbard told a reporter that she had been subject to insomnia and for several nights had not slept well. Wednesday night was a repetition of this state of affair so she decided Thursday morning to take a dose of laudanum to promote sleep. She says she swallowed sixteen drops of the drug, the dosage on the bottle stating it was from 12 to 15 drops for an adult. About noon, Mrs. Hubbard sent a colored woman, an employe, upstairs, to see if her daughter was coming down to dinner. The servant discovered something was wrong as she could not awaken the young woman. Her mother called a physician who in turn called another and they decided to use strychnine to stimulate the circulation. Miss Hubbard was restored and was able to be up town as usual, Saturday. One of the physicians reported that the case was in a rather serious condition when he called. His belief is that the young woman was suffering from an over dose of the narcotic. The drug was taken from an ounce bottle which contained 10 cents worth of the drug bought last week at a local drug store.

Prof. Allen Resigned

Mr. F. P. Allen who has been instructor at the high school since the opening of the Fall term handed his resignation to the board of education Tuesday morning and it was accepted. Mr. Allen left here Wednesday for his home in Illinois. The last few weeks of Mr. Allen's stay were marred by some unpleasantness in the schools and he felt that his work here could not be a success in view of the feeling that prevailed. The entire affair was unfortunate to a degree. The board have not decided whom they will employ in the place of Mr. Allen. The retiring instructor made a good address to the board when he tendered his resignation.

Judge Had Good Picture

While not a coincidence it is a happening worthy of mentioning that the photograph of Judge Smith thrown on the screen at the picture show Friday night was the best picture shown of local subjects. The picture was a remarkably good likeness of the judge and every feature stood out boldly and distinctly in marked contrast to the remainder of the pictures, which, with rare exceptions were blurred indistinct. The next morning came the news that the judge was dead.

Colored Minister Hustler

Rev. J. H. Ward, colored, formerly pastor of the local colored church now is located at Salisbury where he has been pastor of St. Luke's church since last October. Rev. Ward who helped build up the local colored church is busy in Salisbury. He has added 12 communicants since his incumbency and has raised a fund to repair the church.

Fidler-Fox

Oswald M. Fidler and Miss Audrey Fox of near Westville were married at the residence of Rev. J. T. Rice at Salisbury February 14, 1914. Mr. Fidler is a brother of J. L. Fidler of this place. Miss Fox had been employed for an insurance company at Salisbury for some time.